

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace Paragraph [0071] with the following amended Paragraph [0071]

[0071] The mandrel includes an elongate stainless steel rod 50 which may have a diameter of between 0.5 to 1 mm and preferably approximately 0.8 mm. At the proximal end 52 of the mandrel, there is a short tapering transition zone 54 then a tapered proximal zone 56 of gradually reducing diameter and then a short parallel sided end piece 58. At the distal end 53 of the mandrel guide wire there is a short tapering transitional zone 60, a tapered portion 62 of gradually reducing diameter and a constant diameter portion 64.